

# Pacific Motorway (M1) – Stage 2: Eight Mile Plains to Daisy Hill Upgrade

## Frequently Asked Questions

February 2023

### Why is the Pacific Motorway (M1) being upgraded?

The Pacific Motorway (M1) is the primary road transport route connecting New South Wales and the Gold Coast and Logan cities with metropolitan Brisbane. The M1 caters for long-distance travellers, local residents, commuters, commercial vehicles, buses, tour operators and international and domestic tourists. The Australian and Queensland governments are progressively upgrading the motorway, and work is underway to increase capacity on the M1 between Eight Mile Plains and the Logan Motorway.

The M1 is operating at its capacity limit. Forecast urban and industrial growth will further stretch existing infrastructure as Brisbane, Logan and the Gold Coast swell to accommodate almost one million new residents by 2041. A projected 80 percent increase in the national freight task over 20 years will intensify this growth.

The route between Eight Mile Plains, where the Gateway Motorway merges with the Pacific Motorway, and the Logan Motorway is one of the busiest sections of the M1. The overarching **M1 North Upgrade** program is guiding the upgrade and widening of this 16-kilometre section through three stages.

- **Stage 1** of the upgrade program was completed in May 2020. Learn more at: [M1/M3 Gateway Merge Upgrade](#).
- **Stage 2** is the [Eight Mile Plains to Daisy Hill Upgrade](#), currently under construction. This upgrade is being delivered in four work packages:
  - Package 1. [Sports Drive to Gateway Motorway](#) (completed mid-2021)
  - Package 2. [Pacific Highway early works](#) (completed mid-2022)
  - Package 3. [Watland Street to Sports Drive](#) (currently under construction)
  - Package 4. [Rochedale bus station and park 'n' ride](#) (currently under construction)
- **Stage 3** is the [Daisy Hill to Logan Motorway upgrade](#), which is currently in the planning phase of the project lifecycle.

This project is expected to increase both capacity and safety on the M1 as well as upgrade service roads to ensure that local traffic keeps flowing.



## What are the key features of the Eight Mile Plains to Daisy Hill Upgrade?

### Package 1: Sports Drive to Gateway Motorway:

- Widening the M1 up to five **northbound** lanes:
  - between the Sports Drive on-ramp and the Gateway Motorway off-ramp.
- Improvements to a fish passage (known locally as Big Al's Brook) between School Road and Levington Road, to preserve and protect fauna and flora.
- V1 Veloway cycleway extension from the Gateway Motorway to north of Sports Drive.
- Smart Motorways technology.

### Package 2: Pacific Highway early works (western service road)

- Realignment and widening of the Pacific Highway (western service road) between Moss Street and the Watland Street overpass.
- Relocation of public utility services such as drainage, electrical, water, telecommunications and sewer.
- Construction of a 3-metre-wide shared use path for use by pedestrians, wheelchair users, bicycle and e-scooter riders.
- Reinstatement of commercial property frontages along the service road.

### Package 3: Watland Street to Sports Drive:

- Widening the M1 up to four **northbound** lanes between the Watland Street overpass to the M1 on-ramp at Sports Drive.
- Widening the M1 up to four **southbound** lanes between the Rochedale Road M1 off-ramp (Exit 19) to Watland Street.
- A new M1 on-ramp at Lexington Road, to include traffic ramp metering, to replace the on-ramp at Sports Drive, Underwood.
- Upgrading the intersection at Logan Road, Compton Road and Lexington Road, Underwood.
- Extending the South East Busway from Eight Mile Plains to Springwood bus station.
- Extending the V1 Veloway from Sports Drive to Watland Street.
- Upgrading the Rochedale Road signalised intersection at Exit 19 and adding one additional southbound lane to Rochedale Road from the Exit 19 intersection to Springwood Road.
- Connecting the 3 metre wide shared use path from Underwood Road to Moffit Court (off Rochedale Road) for improved access to the new Rochedale bus station and park 'n' ride being delivered in [Package 4](#).
- Smart Motorways technology, including ramp metering and overhead signage gantries on the M1.

#### **Package 4: Rochedale bus station and park 'n' ride**

- Bus station at the corner of School and Underwood roads in Rochedale.
- Park 'n' ride facilities for approximately 485 vehicles, including nine accessible parking spaces.
- Pedestrian and bicycle connectivity to the new station.
- Undercover storage for 30 bicycles.

#### **When will the M1 upgrade be completed?**

The first work package, widening the M1 to five northbound lanes between Sports Drive and the Gateway Motorway Merge, was opened to traffic in mid-2021, and works to realign and widen and the Pacific Highway (western service road) was completed in June 2022.

The new M1 on-ramp at Lexington Road was opened in March 2022, replacing the Sports Drive and T3 on-ramps in Underwood and the V1 Veloway extension from Eight Mile Plains to Camelot Park (Maureen Street) in Underwood was opened in September 2021, with further sections expected to open in mid-2023.

Other key features of the upgrade as outlined in Packages 3 and 4, will be progressively opened from 2024, as construction elements are completed.

#### **What are the benefits of this upgrade?**

Stage 2 will provide many benefits to the travelling community, including:

- \$28.3 million in travel time reliability benefits. Helping to get you to your destination on time.
- Reducing congestion and supporting faster peak hour travel in this area.
- Increasing travel time reliability for freight and inter-regional transport.
- A greatly expanded walking and cycling network, providing more choice for active travel.
- A dedicated busway providing reliable bus services, a new park 'n' ride facility and new bus station facilities.

#### **How many jobs does this upgrade create?**

Stage 2 will support an estimated 721 jobs over the project lifecycle.

#### **How much will it cost?**

Stage 2 is estimated to cost \$750 million. This includes costs related to planning, design, public service utility relocations, property acquisitions and construction.

#### **How is the M1 upgrade being funded?**

The Eight Mile Plains to Daisy Hill upgrade is jointly funded with the Australian Government contributing \$510 million, and the Queensland Government contributing \$240 million.

## When will the rest of the motorway be upgraded?

The M1 North upgrade is being delivered in strategic priority stages as funding becomes available. Stage 2 is expected to be progressively opened from 2024. Construction of Stage 3 (DH2LM) is dependent on approval of the DH2LM business case, additional funding, detailed design and completion of the Eight Mile Plains to Daisy Hill Upgrade.

## How will traffic conditions change during construction?

To ensure the safety of roadwork crews and road users, changed traffic arrangements will be put in place during construction. This means that road conditions will frequently change, including:

- Narrow lanes and shoulder closures
- 'Switches' between traffic lanes
- Altered lane merges
- Full lane closures
- Reduced speed limits
- Short duration traffic stoppages.

Speed limits will be reduced to 80km/h, 60km/h and 40km/h at various locations and times during construction. All road users are reminded that roadwork speed limits are enforceable and that they should continue to obey roadwork signs and traffic controllers.

Keeping a safe distance between you and other vehicles; and from traffic barriers, construction equipment and roadwork crews is recommended. While there may be times when no roadwork crews are onsite or near the motorway lanes, reduced speed limits will remain in place because of the narrowed lanes and shoulders. If you cannot see a roadworker, it does not mean you can increase your speed – there may still be hazards.

Roadwork speed limits are in place not only for everyone's safety, but to benefit the community by helping progress construction activities in a timely manner.

## What works are included in the V1 Veloway extension?

TMR is building dedicated cycleway infrastructure between Eight Mile Plains and Slacks Creek to connect with existing V1 Veloway facilities.

The V1 Veloway will be extended from Eight Mile Plains to Slacks Creek, with access for bike riders at Underwood Road, Maureen Street (from Camelot Park), Sports Drive, Springwood Road, and Moss Street, including a veloway bridge over the M1 Lexington Road on-ramp and underpass at the Exit 20 Logan Road off-ramp.

## When will the Veloway be finished?

The first 2.5-kilometre section of the V1 between Logan Road, Eight Mile Plains and Camelot Park, Underwood was opened in September 2021. As construction on the V1 progresses, additional access points will be progressively opened once it is safe to do so. The next V1 access points to open will be at Sports Drive and Springwood Road in mid-2023.

### Will the busway be extended as part of the upgrade?

The 6.6-kilometre extension of the South East Busway from Eight Mile Plains to Springwood is being constructed as part of the Stage 2 upgrade.

To provide uninterrupted travel to Springwood station, a short underpass will be constructed at the Rochedale Road (M1 Exit 19) off-ramp and the Fitzgerald Avenue M1 Exit 20 off-ramp closed to general traffic (in late November 2022) for dedicated bus-use only.

The busway extension will connect with the Rochedale bus station and park 'n' ride currently being constructed at the corner of School and Underwood roads.

### When will the busway be completed?

The South East Busway extension between Eight Mile Plains and Springwood will be fully completed and opened for use towards the end of the upgrade. The below diagram shows the view from Rochedale Road (Exit 19) looking south, indicating the order in which works will be undertaken:



1. Construction of new northbound M1 motorway lanes
2. Relocation of existing southbound motorway lanes onto old northbound motorway lanes
3. Completion of the busway underpass and structures
4. Open busway onto old southbound motorway lanes once they are completed.

### Will the upgrade make the M1 Pacific Motorway safer?

Safety and congestion are priorities for the upgrade. Severe congestion, particularly during peak hours, is undermining travel efficiency, reliability and safety. Narrow shoulder lanes, closely spaced interchanges and undesirable sight distances heighten safety risks and widen the impact of incidents. Crashes during peak hour can affect cars seven kilometres downstream and add more than an hour to trips. Bus services through the area are regularly impacted, with congestion factored into public transport timetables. Public transport in the vicinity of the project area is primarily bus-based.

Walking and cycling facilities are also substandard, with no formal on-road cycling facilities and fragmented footpaths. While a dedicated cycleway (V1) is being progressively constructed along the motorway between Brisbane and Loganholme, TMR will construct dedicated cycleway infrastructure between Eight Mile Plains and Slacks Creek to connect with existing V1 Veloway facilities.

Stage 2 will address these issues to increase the safety of motorists, bike riders and pedestrians along the M1.

### **Are land resumptions required?**

To provide an improved and safer road network for the community, it is sometimes necessary for the Department to acquire additional land for construction purposes. The Department tries to avoid impacting private property wherever possible, but resumptions cannot be avoided in all cases.

All land required for this project has been acquired.

### **Can I claim compensation for lost trade or loss of home value?**

As a state government department, Transport and Main Roads is lawfully authorised to carry out roadworks to improve the road network for the benefit of the whole community. These road network upgrades are necessary to improve the efficiency of transport routes throughout Brisbane, Logan and the Gold Coast and therefore will also be of future benefit to both residents and business operators in the area.

The Department is always mindful of the impacts of roadworks and does everything that can be reasonably expected to minimise inconvenience to residents, commuters and adjacent businesses. The Department does not compensate either residents for loss of property value or businesses for loss of trade resulting from roadworks.

The project team is committed to keeping everyone informed with timely and accurate information to minimise disruption to the community, including local businesses. Advance notice of disruptive works will be provided to both residents and business operators via works notifications, face-to-face meetings, website updates, electronic signage and traffic control measures. The Department recommends all stakeholders, whether it be residents, commuters or businesses to register their email address to receive electronic project updates on project timeframes, milestones and upcoming works.

### **Who uses the Pacific Motorway?**

More than 150,000 vehicles use the motorway through the stretch between Eight Mile Plains and Daisy Hill every day. Most vehicles are travelling to and from work in Brisbane's inner city and major industrial and enterprise clusters, including Brisbane's port and airport, south-west suburbs and along the M1 into the Gold Coast.

Commercial vehicles and freight account for about 12 percent of motorway traffic, with 12,000 heavy vehicles passing through the corridor daily. With a lack of viable alternative routes, local residents and workers also use the motorway for short trips.

## How can I contact the TMR project team?

You can speak to the project team at:

Phone: 1800 549 664\*

Email: [eightmileplains@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:eightmileplains@tmr.qld.gov.au)

*\* Check with your service provider for call costs. Higher rates apply for mobile phones and pay phones.*

## How can I keep informed on the upgrade?

The project team has a free email and SMS text message traffic alert service to ensure residents and motorists are kept up to date with progress and are aware of changed traffic conditions during construction.

If you would like to register for these services, please email your details to [eightmileplains@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:eightmileplains@tmr.qld.gov.au).

Learn more about the upgrade on the project web page:  
[www.tmr.qld.gov.au/EightMilePlainstoDaisyHill](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/EightMilePlainstoDaisyHill)

## Who do I contact for assisted calls?

If you need an interpreter, call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **13 14 50\*** and have them contact Transport and Main Roads on **13 23 80**.

If you are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the [National Relay Service](#):

- TTY users phone **13 36 77\***, then ask for **13 23 80**.
- Speak-and-listen users phone **1300 555 727\***, then ask for **13 23 80**.
- [Internet relay users](#) connect to the National Relay Service and then ask for **13 23 80**.

*\* Check with your service provider for call costs. Higher rates apply for mobile phones and pay phones.*